Difference Between Plants and Animals

Plants and animals are both multicellular living organisms, but they differ in their structure, nutrition, growth, and functions.

1. Basic Differences

Feature	Plants	Animals
Cell Type	Eukaryotic	Eukaryotic
Cell Wall	Present (cellulose)	Absent
Chloroplast	Present	Absent
Mode of Nutrition	Autotrophic (photosynthesis)	Heterotrophic
Growth	Continuous throughout life	Stops after maturity
Movement	Immobile (fixed)	Can move freely
Response to Stimuli	Slow and limited	Quick and active
Food Storage	Stored as starch	Stored as glycogen
Nervous System	Absent	Well-developed
Reproduction	Mostly asexual & sexual	Mostly sexual

Difference Between Plants and Animals

Respiration	Take in CO2 & release O2 (photosynthesis)	Take in O2 & release CO2

2. Structural Differences

Plants:

- Have a cell wall for support and shape.
- Contain chloroplasts for photosynthesis.
- Have large central vacuoles for water storage.

Animals:

- Lack a cell wall; have flexible membranes.
- No chloroplasts; do not photosynthesize.
- Small or no vacuoles.

3. Functional Differences

- Plants are producers - they make their own food.
- Animals are consumers - they depend on plants or other animals for food.
- Plants grow mainly at specific regions (tips), while animals grow uniformly.

Summary

Plants -> Autotrophic, non-motile, have cell wall & chloroplast.

Animals -> Heterotrophic, motile, no cell wall or chloroplast.